Venue for film festivals

1580. DR. AKHILESH DAS:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:
SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Goa has been selected as permanent venue for film festivals;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether other States/UTs also offered to host film festivals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the rejection of their offers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) The need for a permanent venue of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) arises, *inter alia*, from the need to develop quality infrastructure, reduce infructuous costs of refurbishing a new festival venue each year and have a venue that evokes a festive spirit. In consultation with the representatives of the film industry, Goa is seen as a place that is already on the international tourist map and has a festive ambience. Accordingly, it has emerged as the unanimous choice for a permanent venue for IFFI. Apart from IFFI, major international film festivals are held in Kolkata, Mumbai, Delhi and Thiruvananthapuram. An International Children's Film Festival is also organized, every alternative year in Hyderabad by the Children's Film Society, India, with the participation of the Government of Andhra Pradesh. A festival of documentary films is organized binnially in Mumbai. After the decision to have the permanent venue for IFFI in Goa was taken, a reference was received from the Minister of Food, Culture and Devaswoms, Government of Kerala to fix the permanent venue of IFFI in Thiruvananthapuram.